Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 06348 271957Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
----------100500 272002Z /62
R 271715Z JUL 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9737

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6348

NODIS

FOR SECRETARY VANCE, UNDER SECY HABIB AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON AND NAS FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, MPOL, IS, JO, XF
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH ARNAUD DE BORCHGRAVE, NEWSWEEK CORRESPONDENT

1. ON JULY 26, I HAD COFFEE WITH ARNAUD DE BORCHGAVE, INTERNATIONAL EDITOR OF NEWSWEEK, AND PERSONAL FRIEND, WHO LEFT NEXT DAY FOR A MONTH'S VACATION IN AMERICA. ONE PART OF CONVERSATION MAY BE WORTH YOUR CONSIDERATION. DE BORCHGRAVE SAID HE WAS CONVINCED THAT GENEVA CONFERENCE WOULD NOT OCCUR (OR CERTAINLY WOULD BE ABORTED) BECAUSE ISRAEL DOESN'T WANT IT. HE HAS JUST FINISHED INTERVIEWS WITH ASSAD AND HUSSEIN, AND HAS TALKED TO SADAT RECENTLY. HE QUOTES ISRAELI CHIEF OF ARMED FORCES SAYING ANOTHER WAR IS INEVITABLE, IT WILL LAST THREE DAYS AND IT WILL SET BACK ARABS TEN YEARS. DE BORCHGRAVE SAYS ISRAELIS WILL NOT BELIEVE ANYONE REGARDING THEIR SECURITY. THEY KNOW THEY CAN WIN THIS LIMITED WAR AND ARE WILLING TO RISK US WRATH AND INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION. THE WAR WILL REAFFIRM THEIR OCCUPATION OF THE WEST BANK. EXPECTING THE WAR TO CAUSE HUSSEIN'S DOWNFALL, ISRAEL WILL INVITE THE PALESTINIANS TO STAY IN THE WEST BANK TERRITORIES OR TO GO TOJORDAN WHICH PRESUMABLY THEY WOULD CONTROL. DE BORCHGRAVE SAID THAT KEY ISRAELIS FELT THE COUNTRY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 06348 271957Z

HAD MADE A MISTAKE IN SEEKING A RELATIONSHIP WITH HUSSEIN BECAUSE THE PALESTINIANS WOULD HAVE HAD A "HOMELAND" IF THEY HAD SUCCEEDED IN OVERTHROWING HUSSEIN IN 1974-75. IT IS DE BORCHGRAVE'S SENSE THAT THE ARABS ANTICIPATE THIS ISRAELI STRATEGY BUT ARE ESSENTIALLY POWERLESS TO DEAL WITH IT BECAUSE OF THEIR OWN PERCEIVED MILITARY INADEQUACY. AN INTERESTING POINT WAS HIS RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION ABOUT AN ARAB OIL

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

EMBARGO IN THE EVENT OF SUCH A WAR. HE SAYS SUCH AN EMBARGO
IS UNLIKELY BECAUSE THE SAUDIS (AND PERHAPS OTHERS) SEE US
AS THEIR FRIEND, NOT ALONE ISRAEL'S ALLY.
VANDEN HEUVEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MEETINGS, JOURNALISTS, PEACE TALKS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA06348
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840083-0494
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770715/aaaaammr.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fb038663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1737805
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH ARNAUD DE BORCHGRAVE, NEWSWEEK CORRESPONDENT
TAGS: MOPS, MPOL, IS, JO, XF, (DE BORCHGRAVE, ARNAUD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fb038663-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009